

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 28, 2002      LB 19, 1110

deter me from what I think I ought to do. The way to deter me is to persuade me that I ought to pursue a different course. If an argument like that is given to me I can be swayed. Senator Landis had a bill that would have come up but for his friend Senator Janssen, that I was adamantly opposed to, and he and I talked about it. He discussed what he was willing to do by way of an accommodation that would meet both of our ends and, although I was giving up more than he was, I had agreed to go along with it. He persuaded me that the course I was pursuing was not necessarily the only course that was available. I won't say that in changing my mind I'm pursuing the best course as I perceive it, but it is an alternative to what I had intended to do. Now if I have a bill that means a great deal to me and I'm going to make an appeal to the senators to be merciful to those who are affected by the bill, I would prioritize it, as I did with LB 19, which deals with discrimination against people based on sexual orientation. Another bill is coming up, and it's right on the horizon, which may give me an opportunity to raise that issue again. I notice that the realtors were smart enough this time not to give it to Senator Adrian Smith to carry. They gave it to somebody else. We're going to see how that jockey rides the horse and whether he can bring him across the finish line. But I'm not going to be deterred from what I have set out to do. You all need to know that I mean what I say and I say what I mean. Now there are things that I say in a weekly column I do in a newspaper in Omaha. Some people here read it; others don't. I'm not going to deny putting anything in there that I say. I don't ask quarter and, when the situation is appropriate, I give none. So it was known by the introducer of the bill, to quote from a newspaper item that she mentioned, a certain senator from Waverly, our friend, that this was a bill that was not as important as other bills to her, so nothing is wrong with trying to hitch it onto another bill that seems like it's going to make it. I have attempted to do the same thing, as we all have. Sometimes I've been successful; sometimes I have not. My opposition to the amendment does not mean it's not going to be added to the bill. There still may be 24 people or 23 people who will join Senator Connealy and Senator Hudkins in putting this amendment...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.